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World Factbook Travel Facts



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FACTBOOK

## Sierra Leone

### US State Dept Travel Advisory

The US Department of State currently recommends US citizens **DO NOT TRAVEL** to Sierra Leone due to crime. Reconsider travel to Sierra Leone due to COVID-19. Consult its website via the link below for updates to travel advisories and statements on safety, security, local laws and special circumstances in this country.

<https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/traveladvisories/traveladvisories.html>

### Passport/Visa Requirements

US citizens should make sure their passport will not expire for at least 6 months after they enter the country even if they do not intend to stay that long. They should also make sure they have at least 1 blank page in their passport for each entry stamp/visa that will be required. A visa is required. US citizens will need to get in touch with the country's embassy or nearest consulate to obtain a visa prior to visiting the country.

### US Embassy/ Consulate

+(232) (99)105-000; EMER: +(232)(99) 905-029; U S Embassy Freetown, Southridge, Hill Station, Freetown, Sierra Leone

### Telephone Code

232

### Local Emergency Phone

Ambulance: 999; Fire: 019; Police: 999

### Vaccinations

An International Certificate of Vaccination for yellow fever is required for all travelers. See WHO recommendations.

<http://www.who.int>

### Climate

Tropical; hot, humid; summer rainy season (May to December); winter dry season (December to April)

### Currency (Code)

Leones (SLL)

### Electricity/Voltage/Plug Type(s)

230 V / 50 Hz / plug type(s): D, G



### Major Languages

English (regular use limited to literate minority), Mende (principal vernacular in the south), Temne (principal vernacular in the north), Krio (English-based Creole, spoken by the descendants of freed Jamaican slaves who were settled in the Freetown area, a lingua franca and a first language for 10% of the population but understood by 95%)

### Religions

Muslim 78.6%, Christian 20.8%, other 0.3%, unspecified 0.2%

<b>Time Difference</b>	UTC 0 (5 hours ahead of Washington, DC, during Standard Time)
<b>Potable Water</b>	Opt for bottled water.
<b>International Driving Permit</b>	Suggested
<b>Road Driving Side</b>	Right
<b>Tourist destinations</b>	Mount Bintumani; Tacugama Chimpanzee Sanctuary; Martello Tower; National Railway Museum; Tokeh Beach; Turtle Islands; Lakka Beach
<b>Major Sports</b>	Soccer, basketball, cricket, boxing, baseball
<b>Cultural Practices</b>	Hissing is the accepted way of gaining someone's attention in public.
<b>Tipping Guidelines</b>	Tips at restaurants are typically not expected, but appreciated. Tipping at hotels is somewhat expected, but at your discretion.

Please visit the following links to find further information about your desired destination.

[World Health Organization \(WHO\) - To learn what vaccines and health precautions to take while visiting your destination. http://www.who.int](http://www.who.int)

[US State Dept Travel Information - Overall information about foreign travel for US citizens. https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/international-travel.html](https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/international-travel.html)

[To obtain an international driving permit \(IDP\). Only two organizations in the US issue IDPs: American Automobile Association \(AAA\) \(www.aaa.com\) and American Automobile Touring Alliance \(ATA\) \(www.aataidp.com\)](http://www.aaa.com)

US citizens may call the US Dept of State (+1-202-501-4444) for emergencies abroad.

Wednesday, July 14, 2021